

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

Department of Transportation & Public
Facilities Alaska Marine Highway System

Masters Action Circular: 20-001

DATE: January 31, 2020

TO: Masters
Chief Engineers
Alaska Marine Highway System

TELEPHONE: 907.228.6825

FROM: Christy Harrington
Environmental

SUBJECT: Waste Water Discharges at
Vigor Alaska, Ketchikan

REFERENCE

EAC 14-001

Seasonal: January – March:

The procedures for discharging wastewater while in Ketchikan at Vigor Alaska has changed over the winter season. We have been contacted by the Department of Public Wastewater Division to correct the issue.

Due to the current quality of wastewater being received at the Charcoal Point Wastewater Treatment Plant. Please follow the procedures below:

- 1) Do not run the dilution water before pumping.
- 2) Do not dilute the wastewater being pumped off unless it is needed to prime the pump of the system.
- 3) Do not run dilution water after pumping.

Please do continue to pump daily and make the necessary calls to the Wastewater Division. This situation is seasonal and changes will be made to the procedures accordingly. (Please reference EAC 14-001).

Note: Vigor Alaska does have the capabilities of introducing fresh water into the wastewater flow after it has left the vessel at certain berthing locations.

Until further notice please contact 907-225-8750 and let the wastewater treatment staff know that the vessel will be pumping wastewater into the system. Please be sure to specify which AMHS vessel is discharging.

CC (via email distribution):

Captain John Falvey, General Manager
Narciso Flores, Marine Engineering Manager
DOT AMHS Port Engineers

Captain Anthony Karvelas, Operations Manager
DOT AMHS Port Captains

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
Alaska Marine Highway System

Engineering Advisory Circular: 14-001

TO: Chief Engineers
All Vessels
Alaska Marine Highway System

DATE: April 24th, 2014

TELEPHONE NO: 907.228.7295

FAX NUMBER: 907.228.6876

FROM: Gregory A. Jennings
Port Engineer

SUBJECT: **Waste Water Discharges at
Vigor Alaska, Ketchikan**

It has come to our attention that the current procedures for discharging Waste Water while in Ketchikan at Vigor Alaska have been overwhelming the local facilities. When this happens it forces the evacuation of select Department of Public Works Facilities due to the presence of noxious gases. We have been contacted by the Department of Public Works and begun discussions with them on how to eliminate this issue. New procedures and equipment will soon be available to prevent further occurrences and these are described briefly later on. For now there are two actions we must institute immediately, one for vessels currently at Vigor Alaska and one for the MSD operating vessels of the fleet.

It is requested that you begin diluting your Waste Water as much as possible before pumping ashore. Please introduce as much fresh water into the waste water tanks as possible before pumping ashore. We understand that this will result in having to pump more frequently but until the permanent solution is worked out it is necessary to operate in this manner. Please note that Vigor Alaska does have the capability of introducing fresh water into the wastewater flow after it has left the vessel at certain berthing locations. Work with your Port Engineer and Vigor staff to make best use of these capabilities when available. Until further notice please contact 907.225.8750 and let the Waste Water Treatment staff know that you will be pumping your waste water into the system. Please be sure to specify that it is an AMHS vessel and provide the vessel name.

For those vessels on the run which have operating MSD plants we are requesting that, in addition to the daily Chlorine tests already being conducted on the system effluent, salinity of the effluent be tested. Salinity of the effluent should be tested both with de-chlorination pumps on-line and off-line. Please record these values for a minimum of 5 days and submit on your weekly report. If you do not have test kits available for salinity tests please contact your assigned Port Engineer and get some delivered to make this possible.

In the long term we are planning to have fresh water injection manifolds built and available making it unnecessary to dilute the waste water prior to pumping ashore. One of these manifolds was constructed last year for the M/V Columbia and worked as intended. Once these manifolds

are procured it will become mandatory policy to utilize the manifold whenever discharging waste water at Vigor Alaska. Also on the long term plan is exploring the potential for operating our MSD units pier side while at Vigor Alaska and setting the system up to discharge to the shore side waste water infrastructure, not overboard. This option, if plausible, will eliminate the use (waste) of large quantities of fresh water. This concept is the reason behind the requested effluent salinity tests.

The assistance of the fleet in investigating and solving this issue is appreciated. In order to continue effectively overhauling and laying up vessels in Ketchikan we need to maintain a working relationship with the Department of Public Works and together approach and solve the problems inherent with our shore side infrastructure demands. If anyone has suggestions to improve our policies for waste water discharge or comments on the plans laid out please contact the vessel's assigned Port Engineer.

CC (via email distribution):

Captain John Falvey, General Manager
Narciso Flores, Marine Engineering Manager
DOT AMHS Port Engineers
EAC Archive

Captain Anthony Karvelas, Operations Manager
DOT AMHS Port Captains
All Vessel Masters